

Captain Akeley Retires After 26 Years

CHOOSE "MURDER ON THE CAMPUS" CAST

Tryouts for "Murder On The Campus", a three act play by George Mackaye, sponsored by the Mohawk Club, were held last Monday evening in the auditorium. The judges, Miss Nixon, George Mackaye, and Charles Hapgood selected the following list of students to interpret the various roles:

J. W. Anderson.....	O'Day
Donald McNeil.....	The Dean
Robert Rooney.....	Rims
Alan Kempainen	Doc
Edward O'Sheasy	Butch
Claude Lacouture	Terry
Paul Waring	Tommy
Milton Jeffrey	Freddie
Paul Haire	Carl
John English	Joe
George Carey Richard	Naughton
Dolores Sullivan	Estelle
Corrinne Johnson	Claire
Ellen Funiaole	Pat

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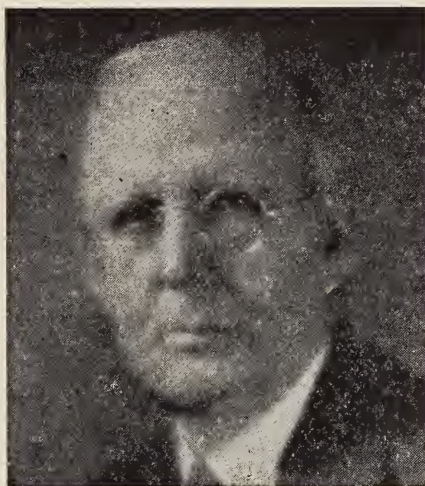
MISS WHITE OF J. H. DOING WELL AFTER OPERATION

Miss Verna White, supervisor of French and English at the junior high school, was taken to the Burbank Hospital Tuesday morning with an attack of appendicitis and operated upon.

She is reported as doing well. She was in school Monday, and was taken ill before time for school on Tuesday.

Miss White, a newcomer to our faculty, holds the position formerly occupied by Miss Grammont.

HE HAS SEEN SERVICE AS A TEACHER, SOLDIER, PAINTER



CHARLES A. AKELEY

Captain Akeley, instructor in the Practical Arts department, retires Saturday December 19. He has been an instructor here for the last twenty-six years. He is retiring because of ill health.

See pages three and four.

FITCHBURG TAKES HYANNIS 54-34

Last Saturday evening the Fitchburg Basketball team met and defeated Hyannis Teachers College by the score of 54 to 34. Both teams played fast and furiously, Fitchburg eager to forget two evenings before, and Hyannis trying to put the game on ice. Howes, of Hyannis, is to be congratulated for the splendid game he played. He also is to be congratulated on his courage for playing so well in the come back he has made.

Mahoney and Foye were the

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COLLEGE STUDENTS OBSERVE CHRISTMAS

Cheer and good fellowship are coupled with the more sublime religious feeling in the Christmas observances by the college and by college organizations in these last few days before the holiday vacation.

For the most, the true celebration will come in the family circles a week from today, with the Christmas tree, church services, Christmas dinner, and a myriad other details that gladden the heart both in themselves and through associated memories. But before the students start homeward next Wednesday noon leaving the friendly air of the school ringing with greetings and farewells, they will have observed the holiday among themselves. Not only does the school as a unit celebrate, but many subordinate groups also will hold parties.

N. Y. A. PROVIDES FOR 57 T. C. STUDENTS

Fifty-seven Teachers College students, thirty-three men and twenty-four women who would otherwise be unable to attend school, are being given aid by the National Youth Administration.

This college receives six hundred dollars monthly, which is divided between the men and the women.

A wide range of work is being carried on. The women do office work for the faculty, for the

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THE STICK

Editorial Staff

Editor-in-Chief ----- Donald Lytle
 Associate Editor ---- Andrew Owens
 News Editor ----- Adah Parker
 Feature Editor -- Lawrence Buttrick
 Sports Editors ---- Helen McCauliff
 Emille Comeau
 Business Manager -- Kenneth Ladner
 Shop Foreman ---- Clifford Feindel

EDITORIAL

CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM?

The *Stick* gives hearty welcome to constructive criticism. It would be an unhealthy sign, indeed, if praise or condemnation were not in evidence. Our issue is not with such — we speak against the “chronic malcontent”, who has a perpetual ax to grind.

He is all too evident on the campus at present. He rails against the College in general, the clubs in particular, and lacking greener pastures, he raises his voice against *THE STICK*.

Does he offer a remedy for those situations which he scores so caustically? No. He simply reviles, without reason, the students responsible for the College paper. He rages at what he terms their despotism. (His name was probably omitted from last week's Ash Tray or Campus Chatter.)

Do you wonder that the staff scorns these vindictive critics, who—afraid to comment in public—slowly spread their propaganda about the campus.

The intelligent members of the student body will join with *THE STICK* in putting these anemic thinkers in their proper place.

—Donald Lytle

The Ash Tray

Introductions at best are extremely boring and tedious, and so, with true Muradic nonchalance and no excuses, we weigh anchor and slip quietly out into the stream of literary trivia that has as its source a prolific little notebook

Heard about the campus: “Who? him? He was a bum columnist. Why, he never even mentioned my name once!” . . . Then there's that Freshman who's so conceited that all his have complementary colors. . . . Sudden thought: We have awards for, and recognition of, athletics, dramatics and all other college activities but none for scholarship! Why? . . . Records show that Dean Anthony graduated from Boston Art School, which accounts, we suppose, for his ability to illustrate his points so well.

Nine days left 'til Christmas—according to the Literary Digest . . . Which reminds us to urge all who have not as yet sent their letters to Santa to do so immediately. Address them care of W. T. Grant's, Fitchburg, Mass. Hi ya, Ernie! . . . 'Tis said that Mr. Hapgood is getting there by Degrees. . . . Minor's diligent application to his work always reminds us of the undertaker who was “just trying to urn an honest living” . . . Orchids to the entire college for contributing your “Pennies From Heaven” in such a generous manner to buy Christmas seals and to aid such a worthy cause. . . . Time and a certain Senior's actions have convinced us that Jerry Belcher isn't just a radio character. . . . One word description of the Palmer Hall men at dinner: gladiators. . . . McDowell at pep assembly: “Come on, let's sing this song without music. Miss Eldridge will accompany us.” Was his

YE PALMER MANOR CHRISTMAS FEASTE

The old English banquet held Thursday evening in the college dining hall is one of our oldest and most cherished dormitory traditions. This year, for the first time, men were in the cast, which was made up of seniors with the exception of the traditional pages. The ceremonies of the entrance of the lords and lady of the manor, bringing in the Yule log, the boar's head, the loin of beef, the Yorkshire pudding, and the was-sail bowl were the observed. The jester entertained with his jokes, and a chorus of men acted as carolers. The cast is as follows:

Lord of Manor-	- - -	-Joe Rush
Lady of Manor-	-Eleanor Cronin	
Woodsmen - - -	-Kenneth Ladner	
	George Forgues	
Cook - - -	-Bessie Fiske	
Jester - - -	-Viola Perreault	
Pages - - -	-Vera Kenney	
	Margaret Sullavan	
Reader - -	-Lawrence Buttrick	
Carolers -	-Matyosaitis, Lambert,	
Baker, Galbraith, Pettee, Hill,		
Howard, Avadanian.		

countenance colored?

'Tis rumored that the Senior girls will perform on the “Stunt Night” program. . . . in bathing suits! Get in line there! Stop your pushing! Yeah? Well it's your tough luck if you're in a hurry.” . . . Personal wonder: If Ruthie “Can't Take It” Hughes is planning a fistic career, and if so, could she use a good manager? . . . Hop Tew It, imported Chinese sage (who replaces One Lung Fuey, now with his honorable ancestors because he had two lungs fuey) says “The secret of success lies in the second letter.” . . . In closing, this column extends to all its readers its sincere best wishes for a very “Merry Christmas” and a prosperous and happy “New Year”.

—John L. Lavelle

BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF MR. AKELEY

On October 13, 1871, our own Charles Akeley was born in Attleboro, New Hampshire. He spent his boyhood days in Fitchburg. The son of a painter, it looked for awhile as if he would follow in his Dad's footsteps. When he became old enough, he worked for his father during the summer as a supervisor of painters at a salary of forty-five dollars per week. Charles figured he would rather have this easy job than go to school. His father gave him permission to quit school and gave him a job. The job wasn't the one Charles expected. His father demoted him to waterboy at a salary of twelve dollars a week. A year of this convinced him that he would rather go to school — so back to school he went.

We next find Charles, now twenty-seven, joining the army as a private to fight in the Spanish-American War. This marks the beginning of his long line of military achievement. At the close of the war, he had worked up to a second lieutenancy. His military enthusiasm led him to join the National Guard where he soon became a first lieutenant. A little later he was given a competitive appointment to Fort Leavenworth. Here he learned to play kriegs (a military game representing actual conditions of war) and checkers. Through studying and playing these games, he acquired a superior knowledge of military tactics. This knowledge in turn led to his appointment as Captain. His next few years he spent running his paint shop in Fitchburg.

The authorities at the Normal School, in order to save money, were having the junior high

school children do some painting. As the children were doing a very poor job, the authorities came to Mr. Akeley and asked him to supervise the children. He came to the school and brought order out of chaos. One request led to another and before long he was spending all of his time at the school. The administration realized his worth and asked him to sell his business and join the faculty. He accepted the offer, and has taught here since 1910.

He left the school in 1917 to go to the Mexican Border in charge of 650 men. He was captain of the first troops to enter Camp Devens. Now an Adjutant General in the National Guard, he went in rapid succession to Westfield, London, and Liverpool in charge of army impediments. From Liverpool, he was sent to LeHarve to take charge of trains and equipment. He was at the front from November to July and then sent away for rest. After the Armistice, he became quartermaster of finance in France. Retired by the Veteran Act of 1921, he came back to the school where he has been ever since. Ill health forced him to give up teaching this year. He plans to go to Florida to regain his health and then he would like to come back and teach in the school he loves so well.

When asked to compare the present school with the one in 1910, Mr. Akeley stated the following:—The curriculum is much more extensive and the staff is better prepared to teach. The work was mainly practical in 1910. Now there is a correlation of the practical and the academic. The average entering student today passes stiffer requirements and is more intelligent than the average student of 1910. "When I started teaching anyone could get admittance to the school. There were some good students, but the average student was way below the average student of today."

DR. HERLIHY EXPRESSES THANKS TO "CAP" AKELEY

The voluntary retirement of "Cap" Akeley on December 18th marks the close of a twenty-six year period of extraordinarily generous service to the Fitchburg Teachers College. Faculty associates, students, employees, and alumni have shared in the largesse of his practical knowledge, his happy philosophy of life, his sympathetic understanding, and the nobility of his character.

We can only say, "Thanks a thousand times, Cap, for all you have done for us. We know that Mrs. Akeley and you are going to enjoy your first real vacation. Do come back and see us, often."

MR. SMITH IN TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN AKELEY

I have known Mr. Akeley ever since he came to teach in the Practical Arts, which had been created but a few years before.

In my relations with him, I have discovered that he has all the desirable qualities that are needed in the teaching profession. He has an attractive personality and an ability to get along with all types of people.

In watching Mr. Akeley at work, one cannot help recognizing that he has had military training. Whatever he makes up his mind to do he carries through in a precise and soldierly fashion. He is always willing to help out, and if he tells you he will do a thing, you need not worry as to its being done. I have always thought very highly of Mr. Akeley and it was with a touch of sorrow that I learned he was leaving.

"Cap" will always be remembered for his "dust and wipe clean".

"CAP" WAS ONCE A PARACHUTE JUMPER

Back in the early nineties Captain Akeley was an adventurous and daring young man, according to Major Burke, for many years in charge of the Fitchburg armory, who gave us the following story:

A balloonist, who was making ascents in Whalom Park, offered fifty dollars to anyone who would go up in the ballon and come down by parachute, little expecting that the offer would be taken up. Young Mr. Akeley was in the audience. Since he specialized in church steeples in his painting work, he had no fear of elevation; and since steeplejacks were not then so highly paid as now, he doubtless had a respect for the fifty dollars. He made his way through the crowd and spoke up, much to the amazement of the ballonist.

On the next day arrangements for the ascent had been completed, and Mr. Akeley, his instructions still ringing in his ears, stepped calmly into the basket and was sent aloft. The day was clear and warm; the gas bag rose rapidly to a high altitude. At the signal, a gunshot, he jumped; at the second shot, he pulled the ripcord. The parachute opened like a huge mushroom, and started to float downward. But nature played her little trick on the man who took it all so calmly by sending a healthy breeze from the north, so that the parachute was carried further and further from the park. Mr. Akeley found that the operation of guy-lines was quite different from handling a paint-brush, and so he was very much at the mercy of the wind.

The crowd of boys anxious to be on the spot when he landed had to keep on the move down the Leominster road to keep the 'chute in sight. They held their breaths as they saw it pass over clumps of trees, barely clear wires, and otherwise tempt fate.

Finally they came upon the parachute and the man in an open field about a mile from the park. Mr. Akeley was calmly folding the parachute and the harness. Then, accompanied by an army of the curious that thundered on the roadway, he strode back to the park, handed over the equipment, received the money, and walked away as though nothing had happened.

So it was that Captain Akeley made his debut and his farewell appearance as a parachute jumper all in one day.

FACULTY MEN'S LUNCHEON FOR CAPTAIN AKELEY

The faculty men had a luncheon in honor of Captain Akeley at the Hotel Raymond Wednesday. They presented him with an inscribed putty knife.

Mr. Akeley will take the knife with him when he sets out for St. Petersburg, Fla. in the near future. He does not intend to use the knife on storm windows. He will make the trip in his new Studebaker sedan.

WOODFINISHING MEN RENOVATE PAINT SHOP

Students of Woodfinishing and Household Repairs under the direction of Mr. Comeau have completed the refinishing of the Paint Shop in the Junior High building.

For the last few weeks the Freshmen P. A. students have been hustling and now the old paint shop has taken on a new and brighter appearance.

Besides this accomplishment they have made-over an adjoining room, which formerly was the metal training shop before the new P. A. building was built, from a place for a storage into a varnish room.

Too many books speak of adolescence as though it were an illness.

—Dr. Adler

MISS NIXON TALKS ON CARL SANDBURG

Belle M. Nixon, principal speaker at the Tuesday assembly sponsored by "THE STICK", chose as her subject "Preparing Our Minds for Carl Sandburg".

The first step in this preparation is to realize that 1936 is not 1880. We cannot approach the poetry of Carl Sandburg expecting to find in it the end rhymes and conventional rhythm patterns which characterized the poetry of the nineteenth century.

"Sandburg," the speaker declared, "is as close to the hearts of the common folk as any poet who has ever written." Reasons for this appeal include his treatment of beauty by showing its effect rather than by merely describing it, his effective use of symbols, his wide and complete knowledge of life, and his intense love of democracy.

To illustrate these points, Miss Nixon read many of Sandburg's poems, among which were "Fog" and "The Cool Tombs".

Donald Lytle, editor-in-chief of the "Stick", reviewed the six objectives he set up for the paper at the beginning of the year and expressed himself as pleased, though by no means content with the weekly as it is at the present time. He assured the college that steady growth would feature the paper's future.

Lawrence Buttrick, feature editor, said that he regretted the rejections he had been forced to make, but hoped that the students would continue to submit material.

W. A. A. REACHES GOAL

The W. A. A. went over the top in its drive for Christmas Health Seals. In the College alone, \$56.98 was received.

The W. A. A. Board wishes to take this opportunity to thank all those who cooperated in making this drive such a success.

F. T. C. DEFEATS HYANNIS

(Continued From Page One)

high scorers for Fitchburg. Jeffery played a whale of a game at left guard. Santos was high man for Hyannis.

Line-ups

Fitchburg	G	F	P
Mahoney r.f.	6	1	13
Lanides r.f.	2	1	5
Passios r.f.	0	0	0
Hastings l.f.	4	0	8
O'Connell l.f.	0	0	0
Foye c.	8	0	16
Braconier c.	0	0	0
McDowell c.	1	0	2
Creamer r.g.	3	0	6
Forgues r.g.	1	0	2
Vorse r.g.	0	0	0
Jeffery l.g.	1	0	2
Geddes l.g.	0	0	0

Total	26	2	54
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Hyannis	G	F	P
Bentinnen r.f.	1	1	3
Hooper r.f.	2	3	7
Santos l.f.	6	3	14
Morse c.	3	0	6
DeAdder r.g.	0	0	0
H. Howes r.g.	0	0	0
Linnenhan l.g.	2	0	4
Jones l.g.	0	0	0
C. Howes l.g.	0	0	0

Total	14	6	34
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Score by periods	1	2	3	4
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Fitchburg	15	15	13	11	54
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Hyannis	9	6	13	6	34
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Referee—Oliva

High scorer to date — Foye 21, Mahoney — 18, Creamer and Hastings 8 each.

N. Y. A.

(Continued From Page One)

general office, and in the post-office. Other women assist in the art, music, library, and physical education departments. Three Women have charge of the training school children during the noon hour.

Some of the men do general repair work and painting in the college buildings, or do special work in the shops. Others work at the greenhouse, sweep for the janitors, or do clerical work for the faculty.

**McNEIL SELECTS
HOCKEY SQUAD**

Coach Don McNeil swung the axe early this week and trimmed the varsity hockey squad down to thirteen members. A second cut will be made after the first game of the season. Those surviving the cut were: Capt. Godek, Bill Bauer, Ernest Savoy, Bob Norton, Chet Bercume, Ed O'Sheasy, John Gearan, Paul Waring, Larry Colson, Wes Ackroyd, Alt Ackroyd, Stan English and Lenny Savignano.

The return of Savignano adds a brighter hue to the hockey picture for this year.

If spirit means anything, this year's team should prove an outstanding one. The boys are fast rounding into first class shape for the opening game, Jan. 4.

CLASS RINGS ORDERED

Class rings have been ordered by many members of the Junior and Senior classes and the shipment is expected to arrive before Christmas. The price of the ring is set at \$10.75 for the men, \$8.75 for the women in the tourmaline stone and \$8.25 and \$7.50 in the onyx.

Another order for the rings will be taken sometime in February.

"MURDER ON THE CAMPUS"

(Continued From Page One)

Ethel Critchley Ruth
Barbara Whitmore Sally

The play, to be held the Thursday of the Annual Winter Carnival week-end, will be directed by Miss Nixon. The number who tried out for parts, about twenty girls and nearly all the Mohawk members, testifies to the enthusiasm with which the Club greeted an opportunity to render a worthwhile contribution to our social life. This exuberance may be partly accounted for by the nature of the play. What better than that a fraternal, or near-fraternal organization should present a picture of fraternal life and intrigue.

TRACK SEASON STARTS

Indoor track started its first practice this week. Great things are expected by the coach and captains because of the fine material that unexpectedly turned out. The freshmen, Avadanian, Aldrich, Houghton, Manning, Wilson and Killay, with the past members of the team, Rooney, Owens, Lacouture and Hirst make the chances for a mile relay team this winter something to be looked forward to.

The sad part about track is that our winter meets are usually far from the home grounds. This makes it almost impossible to have members of the school present at the time of the events. Because of our practicing facilities (North Street) we are slightly handicapped when forced to run on the boards of an oval track. This also makes it impossible to train for any of the field events or hurdles.

**CHRISTMAS CANTATA
TO BE GIVEN TUESDAY**

Through the combined efforts of the Glee Clubs and the Art Club, a program most fitting and symbolic of the Advent season will be presented at the annual Christmas assembly.

The Glee Clubs will contribute a cantata in ten numbers narrating the story of the Nativity. Four soloists will be supported by the combined choruses of both clubs. The string orchestra will accompany the singing.

The Art Club has planned ten tableaux to go with the cantata, and has executed the scenery. A great deal of time and effort has been put into this, according to Miss Lamprey, the club's sponsor. Those who have seen the work in progress have expressed surprise both at its magnitude and its fine workmanship.

Fifteen college students will appear as figures in the tableaux.

Campus Chatter

Now that some of the rooms in the college have been redecorated, may we suggest that the Practical Arts Building needs at least one mirror so that we can decorate our faces after shop classes.

Fardy, what happened when the lights went out?

Nicknames are in order again. Mr. Healy has been here only a few weeks and yet he has acquired "Tailspin Joe."

We extend our best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Akeley and their new car. Here's hoping you have a fine time on your trip south. We are sorry to see you go but best of luck.

Daniels went Dartmouth at 2 A. M.

The dormitory is going high-brow. Bob Geddes has those new fangled transverse curtains.

Sargent Stanley has a picture on his wall that gives a good idea of the Pine Tree State.

Watch for the Wise Men next Tuesday.

Congratulations to the girl with the Ford V 8 who takes her boy friend's room-mate for a ride after the basketball game.

How many saw Carey and McDowell dancing cheek to cheek last Tuesday.

Campus People:

Chase but no catch.

Ward but no 8.

Hazel but no nut.

Hyland but no level.

Fisk but no tire.

Moore but no less.

Creamer but no sugar.

Pearl but no gem.

Buckingham but no palace.

Gearan but no clutch.

Henry says that all the girls up here are cold. They are about as affectionate as a lamp-post.

Believe it or not—Margie and Forgey discuss school over the telephone.

The original Whalom Stompers—Shea and Gearin.

Love in a taxi—starring Howard and Wolfson.

Martha,—when you toot your horn be careful—where?

The gang at Palmer Hall called up Miller Hall and said, "Want to go skating?"

Miller Hall: "No;"

Who needs the paint job now?

SCOOP SAYS:

Henry: you old fixer.

Bobby Norton seems to like the food at a well know restaurant in town. Or could it be the waitress?

What we would like to know is...just who does fluffsie wuffie belong to?

Kempy vera vera mad at the world in general and Campus Chatter in particular last Friday. He blamed us for the crack but we explained that only articles

written under "Scoop" belonged to us. (Others please take note)

Here! Here! June. Would Moose like such goings on?

Mattie says; "Just skip 'Journeys End' "

Its darn White of that girl to feed Harry Moore.

What were the skates for, Pettee...atmosphere?

BOWLERS DIMINISH— STALWARTS CARRY ON

Weekly bowling practice was held at the Putnam Street alleys on Wednesday, Dec. 9, and it appears that Glee Club rehearsals and the expenses of the Christmas season have taken their toll from the ranks of the women bowlers. Only 18 girls were able to stand the drain of a dime or two a week which this popular sport demands.

High scorers for the week were:

Elinore Scully	103—87—82
Alice Dempsey	85
June Maroni	85
Bessie Fisk	82
Florence Lovell	81

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